

A Lecture on Christian Science

—BY—

PAUL STARK SEELEY, C. S.

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF LECTURESHIP OF THE MOTHER CHURCH, THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, BOSTON, MASS.

(This Lecture Was Delivered in La Grande on Feb. 2, 1919)

The teachings of Christian Science, as is generally known, have to do with man's thinking, but in just what way is not so well understood. The Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy, in her work entitled "Miscellaneous Writings," says of this Science, "Its genius is right thinking and right acting" (p. 365), and in another of her works, "No and Yes," she says, "The essence of this Science is right thinking and right acting" (p. 12). Man's actions are the expressions of his thoughts. Let us then consider what constitutes right thinking, its effect upon the life of man, and the way by which one may learn so to think and thereby gain the benefits.

IMPORTANCE OF THOUGHT IN HUMAN AFFAIRS

We are all deeply interested, whether we have considered the fact or not, in the subject of thought. Our thoughts are in fact the most important thing in the world to each one of us. We are primarily interested in our own thoughts for there we find our sense of life and existence. We are also interested in the thoughts of relatives, friends, our business associates, and in the thinking of society as a whole. We cannot fail to agree that thought is the most essential of all things to carry on the world's affairs. In thought government is based, law has its foundation, business is conceived and carried on, human relationships are formed; in short, it is in thought that the whole scheme and order of our affairs is founded. Let any one try to conceive of a day without thinking in it and he will realize that thought is indeed the very modus and current of life. Stop thinking and the world would be an inert mass, a mindless desert. Man's worth to himself and to society depends upon the thoughts he entertains. His thoughts and his life go hand in hand. They are coincident and inseparable.

If then it is to be through thought that the world is to find the real and certain remedy for its ills, and that is what Christian Science teaches, it surely must be through a different order of thinking than any which has been generally known to mankind up to the present time. Speculative philosophy, physical science, mere intellectualism and lofty idealism, scholastic theology, materia medica, necromancy, hypnotism, mesmerism, and many other systems of thinking, though giving every opportunity to meet humanity's need for happiness, health, and peace, have fallen far short of that need. Words and theories there have been a plenty, but there has been a novelty of words.

MIND THE ONLY SOURCE OF INTELLIGENCE

In seeking an answer to the question how to think rightly, Christian Science recognizes that there must be a basis or standard against which to measure right or wrong, the same as mathematical law measures with exactness the correctness or incorrectness of mathematical thinking. What then is this standard? A perspective of the world as we see it shows us that there is in it good thinking, bad thinking, matter and material phenomena. These must be accounted for and a rational basis reached for the elimination of evil and the establishment of good.

In her explanation of Christian Science Mrs. Eddy has pointed out with keen discernment the total dissimilarity between Mind and matter, mind representing intelligence, matter standing for the exact opposite of intelligence, non-intelligence. She boldly rejected the theory that intelligence or thought could come from non-intelligent matter, and accepted the one reasonable premise that intelligence must come from Mind, and that all thought and life is the outcome and expression of Mind. She did not attribute matter or evil to the one intelligent cause, Mind, because both express ignorance, discord and limitation, which are contrary to intelligence.

EVIL THE SUPPOSITIONAL OPPOSITE OF GOOD

For every fact we know in our daily life we may suppose its opposite, the lie about it. So in the universal order Mrs. Eddy discerned that evil and all that is mortal and material is but the supposititious or supposed opposite of God's creation, which is the good and eternal. She recognized that matter and evil are merely temporal phenomena, the visualized concepts of the mortal or carnal mind, the opposite of the one true Mind, God. Jesus exposed this negative nature of evil when he spoke of it as "a liar," in which there is no truth. Thus evil and matter are seen as false moths and material in character, while all that is good and eternal is the manifestation of divine Mind, God. Thus does Christian Science untie, net cut, the Gordian knot of mind and matter, the puzzle of the ages.

The human mind sometimes stands aghast when told that matter is only mental phenomena.

If perchance any of you may feel shocked at this assertion you will be interested to know that physical scientists are now admitting what Mrs. Eddy asserted long before, namely, that matter is in itself not a substance of itself but mental phenomena, the externalized concepts of the human mind. A prominent physical scientist in one of the best known European universities has within the past few years said, "Matter is a thing of thought which we have constructed for ourselves." Another says, "The universe as known to us consists wholly of mind, and matter is a doubtful and uncertain inference of the human intelligence."

If Mrs. Eddy's premise was correct, and everything that is in truth mental, and everything that is more important than matter, health, mortal mind, and its sinful and diseased conditions, was to be mastered and destroyed by the one true Mind, God. This question she met without compromise, and through her writings clearly indicated the law of the one true Mind and the scientific way in which these laws came to be subject to govern-

come, and destroy all evil and disease, that millions of mankind have through their application in thought been healed, comforted, and purified. Her premise, which is in perfect accord with the Bible, that there is but one God, divine Mind, who creates only good, has been proven by irrefutable works to be the basis and starting-point of right thinking.

EVIL CAST OUT THROUGH RIGHT THINKING

The distinction drawn by Christian Science between the mortal and the immortal, the material and the spiritual, is no new thing, no personal opinion. It is a spiritual and eternal fact, the central truth of the Bible. This Science points out that it is through the correct understanding of the one true Mind and his relationship to that Mind that man may free himself from all evil conditions. He learns to put out of thought the evil and temporal sense of existence, with its sinful and diseased beliefs, and gradually gains that consciousness which knows only good and is not subject to sin, disease or death. This is but the reiteration in present-day language of the statement made by Paul to the Romans, that, "to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." There is nothing strange about spirituality or spiritual mindedness. Spirituality is simply goodness. Spiritual mindedness is right thinking, that is, thinking in accord with the one true cause, divine Mind. If all evil sin, and disease is mental, then it must be apparent that the thing to be done is to stop thinking evil and to think only good. From the world's point of view it may seem a monumental if not an impossible task to cast out all evil thinking. Without a sure and certain law to go by it would be so, but to the man who has gained even a slight understanding of the divine Mind over all evil, the accomplishment seems but the natural and inevitable outcome of the law of God, operating through right thinking or spiritual understanding.

THE NATURE OF MIND

Cause signifies power. Divine Mind being the one cause, it must have all power. Being the only Mind, it must be all-wise. Being the only true substance, there is nothing to limit it, therefore it must be everywhere. Mind's expression or manifestation, which is its creation, must necessarily be mental and spiritual, since effect must have the same character and nature as its cause. Mind's creation too must be harmonious and good, being the creation of an all-wise and all-intelligent cause. There being no cause precedent to Mind, there can be no subsequent cause. Mind, therefore, must be and is self-existent and eternal, without beginning and without end. Now this Mind, as stated before, is the one God, and as understood in Christian Science is synonymous with Spirit, Father, Love, names which the Scriptures apply to Deity. Loving consideration must then characterize Mind's relationship with its creation. Intelligence, wisdom, love, goodness, harmony, are seen to mark the natural order of this creation. Perfection is its standard and no element of evil or destruction is there.

Acknowledging the divine Mind as the cause of all things, then reason logically from cause to effect and brings out what must be true about man and the universe which spring from and are the expression of Mind.

This is the second step toward getting a true basis for right thinking, and brings to light the correct and complete idea of creation—Mind and its manifestation, God and His universe, including man, cause and effect—as the basis for all true thought. Here then is to be found the true and complete standard, God's standard, exact, scientific, unchanging.

MAN'S RELATIONSHIP TO MIND

Reasoning then from Mind as the primary cause, let us see what man really is. How is he related to Mind? What is his function, his destiny? The Bible designates man as God's image, son, and heir. It also says that he is made after God's likeness, thus making him out to be the living representative or expression of God. These terms of course apply to the real and eternal man, not to the mortal and transient sense of man. But it is the real man we want to know about and bring to light. Since God is Mind and Mind's only mode of expression must be through its ideas, the very important fact is seen that the real man must be and therefore is the outcome of Mind, is Mind's idea, and is a state of consciousness forever expressing God. He is a celestial; divine in nature, the individualized idea of God. His function and destiny is forever to reflect and express Mind and intelligence in its limitless unfoldment. Man is forever predestined to reflect God, and this is the only predestination there is.

So Christian Science teaches that man, the real, true, normal man, is forever linked to God as idea is linked to mind, for God is Mind and man is Mind's idea. The real man, being mental and spiritual, cannot be, and therefore is not, materially, physically, or mortally conditioned; since such conditions are temporal, not the offspring of eternal Mind, but of its opposite, mindless matter. Man as idea cannot fall away from or be separated from God, for God is his intelligence, his life, his substance; nor can God abandon, overlook or forget man for He cannot be separated from His manifestation. Man's life, health, and well-being are therefore always a matter of divine concern. This unity of man and God is a most scientific holding in the teachings of Christian Science, for without some intelligent grasp of original cause and his rightful relationship to that cause, man is without any guiding star by which to chart his way out of the wilderness of earthly woes.

THE ATONEMENT

Since God must evolve anything unlike Himself, man must possess the same qualities and substance as his creator. Jesus said, "I and my Father

are one." If we fail to recognize the relationship between God and man here indicated, we fail to grasp the basic truth of being, the vital part of Christianity, the very keys to the salvation of mankind. This oneness of man with God in quality but not in quantity is indeed the doctrine of atonement as Christian Science explains it, or the doctrine of atonement. Seen in the light of Christian Science the doctrine of atonement is no longer a human doctrine but a spiritual fact, namely, man's natural and eternal oneness with God, divine Mind. Man separated from God would be like a number severed from numerals, or a lone separated from music, or a ray of light separated from the sun. He would be a non-entity. As the number is one with numerals, as the tone is one with music, as the ray of light is one with the sun, so man is one with God. So long as God is, man is. They are eternally correlated in thought and action, a relationship clearly defined by Jesus when he said, "As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father."

THE CHRIST-IDEA

In place of an obscure, mysterious, or doubtful concept of God and His creation, Christian Science unfolds, as we have shown, the true idea or scientific concept of God and man, which is the corner-stone of right thinking and living and the way to Christian healing. The coming of this true idea of God and man in your consciousness and mine, is the coming of the Christ that is to free us from the bondage of evil and destroy all disease. It is important that we understand just what is meant by the Christ. Christ is defined on page 583 of the Christian Science text-book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mrs. Eddy, as "the divine manifestation of God, which comes to the flesh to destroy inhuman error." Christ then is the true idea of God and man which comes to displace the wrong concept of existence enshrined in human consciousness.

This true idea, the spiritual idea of God and man, taught by Jesus, is what Christian Science means when it shows the coincidence and spiritual agreement between God and man. The Christ-idea is indeed the pearl of great price, the redeemer, the savior. It comes to each of us to lead us out of evil into good, out of error into Truth, out of ignorance into intelligence, out of matter into Spirit, away from earth to know God.

Theologians have for many years confused the Christ-idea with the corporeal man Jesus.

Christ is the true idea of God and man, which comes to the flesh to destroy inhuman error. The Christ-idea is indeed the pearl of great price, the redeemer, the savior. It comes to each of us to lead us out of evil into good, out of error into Truth, out of ignorance into intelligence, out of matter into Spirit, away from earth to know God. Theologians have for many years confused the Christ-idea with the corporeal man Jesus. Christian Science makes plain the distinction between the personal Jesus and the Christ, the true idea of God, which must come to each individual consciousness and resurrect it from false beliefs. To cling to a corporeal savior is to worship a fleshly concept, and Jesus said that the flesh profits nothing. Jesus was a human person. Christ is the true spiritual idea of life which Jesus understood and exemplified better than all others, but which is knowable in spite of all the recited and distasteful mortal existence that there is indeed a God who is altogether good, who is all-wise and all-powerful, and who is now available to help us overcome and master evil.—Just as soon as we turn to Him, then our thinking begins to change. We begin to seek for and to get acquainted with God, to obey the Scriptural command, "Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace."

FALSE CONCEPTS

When we begin to lay hold of the true sense of being, actually to realize in spite of all the recited and distasteful mortal existence that there is indeed a God who is altogether good, who is all-wise and all-powerful, and who is now available to help us overcome and master evil.—Just as soon as we turn to Him, then our thinking begins to change. We begin to seek for and to get acquainted with God, to obey the Scriptural command, "Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace."

A stranger is one who is unknown.

strange. God is therefore a stranger to us if we do not actually know Him. This foreign concept of God as strange is just what Christian Science is here to remove. Let us suppose that Mr. A and Mr. B live in the same community. A common belief in the community is that Mr. B is unapproachable, distant, difficult to understand. Mr. A, without any personal investigation, believes the report and holds aloof from Mr. B, although he is in dire need of a friend. Mr. B, in fact, is not the kind of a person common report has made him out to be. He is not distant or difficult to understand, but on the contrary is easily approachable, is interested in doing good, is charitable, kind, and glad to help others. What has kept the men apart? What has made them strangers? Nothing but a false concept entertained by Mr. A, a concept which had no basis in fact, was not the outcome of truth, but was simply a false belief, a lie. Mr. A was deprived of Mr. B's friendship and friendly assistance for all time. The false concept was the barrier. What was needed to restore a normal relationship was the truth in the consciousness of Mr. A.

Is not the lesson plain? What is it but a false concept that is between suffering humanity and God?

It is just that and nothing more. How many have accepted the common superstition that God is distant, unapproachable, and difficult to understand even while the Bible describes him as "as near as our hearts" and as saying, "I will put my law into their hearts; and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." Christian Science dispels our false concepts of God, does away with mystery, superstition, ignorance and fear, and enthrones in man the true consciousness of God which shows Him to be all-wise, all-powerful, ever available, all-wise, to be the God who presently "heals the physical, mental or other nature" of man.

Being acquainted with God, it is well to remember, is simply a state of mind; neither words, true consciousness. To know God man must be thinking correctly about God, and that is just what Christian Science helps man to do.

When the gentle man of Winnetka voiced the message, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," he

(Continued on page 4.)

Red Cross Drug Store
The Prescription Store.

Social and Personal
Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Stittinger visited friends at Pendleton yesterday.

R. S. Eakin went to Union this morning to spend a few hours attending to legal business.

Leighton Adams left yesterday morning for Portland, where he will take a course at the Moler Barber college. La Grande friends wish Leighton all success in his new work.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Beck of 2703 N. Fir street received a telegram from their son, Paul D. Beck, who had been in the air service in France, that he had arrived safely at Camp Stuart, Virginia, on February 1st, and was well and happy.

Miss Jessie Gillilan, of Oakland, Calif., passed through La Grande this morning on her way to Summerville, to attend the funeral of her mother, Mrs. Jennie Gillilan, who died in this city Friday last. Miss Gillilan is a teacher in the Oakland schools.

Mrs. E. E. Freeman and daughter left Saturday night for their home in Portland. Little Mary Jane has been visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Pennington, the past six weeks, while Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have been in Washington, D. C., and other eastern cities.

Jerry Kimball, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Kimball, of this city, passed through town Saturday from Camp Lee, Va., on his way to Camp Lewis, Wash., where he is awaiting his discharge. Jerry has been in the service for about a year and has been in the military police department at Camp Lee. He expects to be home in a few days, according to a letter received by his mother from him this morning.

Mrs. Wm. McKnight, of Winnetka, Montaba, and her sister, Mrs. D. McIntyre, of Athena, Wash., accompanied by her son, Harold, arrived Saturday evening for a brief visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Switzer in this city. Mrs. McKnight and Mrs. McIntyre, who had been visiting their mother at Long Beach, Cal., for the past few weeks, leave tomorrow to return to Athena, and from there Mrs. McKnight will go on within a few days to her home in Winnetka.

NEW TODAY

FOR SALE—20-room house, all furnished, modern. Good location. Also real estate in all parts of town for sale cheap—must sell. Easy terms. Call Mrs. Zuber, 1208 Spring St. 2-3-3tp

FOR SALE—Plymouth Rock eggs, \$1 per setting. Red 691. 2-3-3tp

FOUND—Red spotted steer, branded J on left shoulder. Ear mark crop, swallow fork, underbit in right ear. H. W. Park, Summerville. 2-3-3tp

LOST—Brown leather pocketbook. Return. Returns to Observer. 2-3-3tp

FOR SALE—At a bargain one Hudson Super Six, one Oldsmobile, 1 Vellie six, two Buicks, one Buick. La Grande Garage, Chas. McCrary, Prop. 2-3-4t

WANTED—Girl for general house work. Mrs. Nipen, 1301 Adams. 2-3-4t

"VIVLETTE" CHOSEN AS FAVORITE STORY

When dainty Vivian Martin had finished the filming of "Unlabeled Goods," her latest Paramount picture some time ago, she went on a well-deserved vacation. Before leaving the studios she sought Walter Edwards, the director, and expressed great concern over the fact that no one seemed to know what her next picture would be.

"I wish you would permit me to make a suggestion," she said to Mr. Edwards, "and that is to put on William J. Locke's story of 'Vivlette.' I have read that story and I like it so much that I am convinced it is a character written especially for me, and I know that I can like and feel the part. Now do all you can to obtain the rights to that story for my sake."

"I will do my best," said Mr. Edwards, and a few days later negotiations were opened for the acquisition of the rights to "Vivlette," and soon on its production began its popularity. When Mrs. Martin returned from her vacation everything was in readiness for her to begin work. The result of her labor will be seen in one of the finest pictures in which she has appeared, and it will be shown at the Arcade theatre today.

Tuesday Special

ONE DAY ONLY—A red hot special—Over a hundred Georgette Waists. All colors, sizes up to 52; PRICE \$7.75 to \$10.50—CHOICE FOR TUESDAY **\$5.85**

E. E. KIRTLEY
LADIES' READY-TO-WEAR

CARRYING FOOD TO SUFFERERS
SHIPS LEAVE NEW YORK WITH SUPPLIES FOR PEOPLES OF ARMENIA AND GREECE.

Two steamers under the direction of the American Committee for Relief in the Near East have sailed from New York with foodstuffs and other supplies for the suffering people of Asia Minor. The Mercusius, which was an ammunition carrier during the war and which was turned over to the committee by the navy department, sailed from the North River, and the steamer Western Belle, recently built for the Emergency Fleet Corporation, steamed from Tompkinsville, Staten Islands.

In the \$1,000,000 cargo stowed away below hatches and on the decks of the Mercusius is to be found every variety of article needed for the relief of the Armenians, Syrians, and Greeks who ever since the outbreak of the war in 1914 have been shut off from help and who have suffered from the ravages of famine, plague and destitution. The inventory of the cargo ranged from spoons and needles to two-ton motor trucks.

The Western Belle's share of the life-saving freight now on its way across the Atlantic is 8,075 tons of flour, which was purchased by the American Committee for Relief in the Near East with the approval of the United States Food Administration and the Inter-Allied Food Conference of which Herbert C. Hoover is the head. So pressing is the need for food and clothing in the stricken areas of Western Asia that the cargo was rushed aboard the Mercusius and the Western Belle in record time. The Mercusius is racing across the Atlantic with the Western Belle and will contest every mile of the trip with her rival for the honor of landing relief goods first. The Mercusius and the Western Belle both have naval crews and are commanded by naval officers. Captain Caleb L. Morris is in charge of the

Mercurius and Ensign Wayland of the Western Belle.

This is the Western Belle's maiden trip. She came from the yards of the Columbia River Shipbuilding company to this port shortly after the signing of the armistice. She was intended to carry supplies to the American army, but was released by the government and placed at the disposal of the American Committee of Relief in the Near East for this trip. The Mercusius, on the other hand, is at the disposal of the committee as long as she is needed.

NEW TAXI LINE.
Neal Suydam and Clifford George, Props. Stand at Savoy hotel, Main 713. Reliable drivers, first class cars. Day and night service.—Adv.

HAIR WORK.
Ladies' modern hair work done, new switches made to order. Combing made to order. 1427 Washington St. 1-13-2-13

The finest assortment of atomizers made are in stock at Silverthorn's and plenty of fever thermometers that have been accurate. 2-3-3t

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

OLD HATS
made to look like new at Wilson Bros., new Foley building. 2-1-3t

BAD BREATH
Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets Get at the Cause and Remove It

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel, act gently on the bowels and positively do the work.

People afflicted with bad breath find quick relief through Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. The pleasant, sugar-coated tablets are taken for bad breath by all who know them.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets act gently but firmly on the bowels and liver, stimulating them to natural action, clearing the blood and gently purifying the entire system. They do that which dangerous calomel does without any of the bad after effects.

All the benefits of nasty, sickening, griping calomel are derived from Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets without griping, pain or any disagreeable effects.

Dr. F. M. Edwards discovered the formula after seventeen years of practice among patients afflicted with bowels and liver complaint, with attendant bad breath.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are purely a vegetable compound mixed with olive oil; you will know them by their olive color. Take one or two every night for a week and note the effect. 10c and 25c per box. All druggists.

DELCO LIGHT
The Complete electric light and power plant

Specified and used by the U.S. Army and Navy, the Red Cross, and the U.S.A.

More than four thousand Delco-Light plants were delivered for war work. They were used to supply electric light in camps, storehouses, hospitals, Y. M. C. A. huts, airplane hangars, sub-chasers and other branches of the service.

In Red Cross hospitals at the front, Delco-Light operated life-saving X-ray apparatus.

Delco-Light was specified by the Government because it is dependable, efficient, simple to operate, requires little attention, and because it is AIR-COOLED.

The result of Government tests and the satisfactory use of Delco-Light on over 60,000 farms are your assurance that Delco-Light will give you the same dependable service.

It better living conditions, increases farm efficiency, and soon pays for itself in time and labor saved.

NATE ZWEIFEL
La Grande, Oregon
THE ELECTRIC ENGINEERING CO., Dayton, Ohio
Makers of DELCO-LIGHT Products

DELCO-LIGHT is the most efficient on more than 60,000 farms